WASHINGTON.

The Finance Debate To Be Resumed on Monday.

PENAL PUNISHMENT.

The Deficits in the District of Columbia Exchequer.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE MAILS

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1874. The Impending War Between Brazil and Buenos Ayres-Diplomatic Excite-ment-The Part Which the Son of President Lopez May Play.

Diplomatic circles were quite exercised to-day about the threatening news which was tele-graphed from Lisbon relative to the coming war between Brazil and the Argentine Republic. absence of Councillor Borges, the Brazillan Minister at Washington, was not calculated to put a peacelike construction upon the gunpowder news just received from Rio Janeiro and Buenos Ayres. It was thought generally that the Brazilian Minister had gone to New York in order to hasten personally the forwarding of munitions to his own country, inasmuch as the Lisbon telegram stated that munitions were arriving at Buenos Ayres from the United States. All this, nowever, was but conjecture, and the diplomatic minds were puzzled especially to know what was despatch, and on account of which war seemed to be so imminent between the two great South American Powers. It is not generally known that El Señor Emiliano Lopez, the only remaining ledent Lopez, killed in she late Paraguayan war for Señora Solano Lopez, in the suburbs of Villa del Pilar, the town occupied by Caballero, Bareiro and insurgents against the present government of Paraguay. The jormer President-Lopez-it is known, in the last years of his life had been divorced de facto from his legiti-mate wife, and had lived maritally with Miss Emma Lynch, who stood by him very courageously to the last and who had borne him many ildren. Still, in the eyes of the Paraguayans there was but one Senora Lopez and there is but one legitimate son of the dead President, and this one is Emiliano Lopez. This young senor, about twenty-three years of age, has resided most of his tife in Europe and has spent a whole season here in Washington, where, on one occasion, his pres ence at Mrs. Fish's reception caused some unpleasantness to Mrs. Garcia, the wife of the Argentine Minister. Two years ago Emiliano Lopez returned to Paraguay, and he lived there on his estate, with out taking the least part in politics. But it is thought by some parties here that General Caballero and ex-Minister Bareiro, who have failed lately in their revolutionary attempt at Asuncion may have expected to cover their plans under the name of young Lopez. aware of the tremendous popularity which surrounds such a name in Paraguay, they may have entertained the hope that Emiliano Lopez would be dragged into the nest of their intrigues. and with this hope they have transferred their revolutionary headquarters to Villa del Pilar. But those who pretend to know anything-about the always intricate politics of the South American countries feel safe in believing that Emiliano Lopez is too patriotic, and too sagacious at the same time, to allow himself to be the tool of such that Brazil is at present the only and best ally of Paraguay. At any rate, he is said to be too cautious to take any part at present in the political struggles which some ambitious men try to create in Paragusy in order to gain power through the support of the Argentines, to whom the Gran Chaco, a portion of the Paraguayan ter. ritory, would be delivered up as the payment for their intervention.

The Finance Debate To Be Resumed in the Senate on Monday. In the Senate, after considerable debate, the

Centennial bill was sent to the Committee of Appropriations by a vote of 33 to 17. The motion of nator Sherman that the bill for the equalization of the national currency be taken up, so as to be received no objection, and Senator Logan gave notice that in the event of Senator Ferry, of Michion the finances. The Senate then went into executive session, after which they adjourned until Mon-

Railroad Bill in the Evening Session. The House to-day considered only private bills, a number of which were passed, referred or otherwise disposed of. The evening session to-night was occupied with the discussion of the bill to regulate inter-State commerce over railroads. Speeches were made by Mr. Wilson, of Iowa, and McNulta, of Illinois, in support of the measure and by Mr. Storm of Pennsylvania in opposition

The House adjourned at a quarter past nine. The Memorialists Asked to Present

Specific Charges.

The Joint Senate and House Committee, inves tigating the District of Columbia affairs, held a ong session to-day, at which they continued the examination of the Comptroller of the District, and also examined Governor Shepherd and the Tax Collector and the Superintendent of Public Schools in regard to the past and present condition of the school fund. The Governor testified that there had been about \$30,000 paid out of the District Treasury for school purposes in excess of the amount of school taxes collected. The testimony of the other officers corroberated this state ment and also the statement made by Comptroller Baker yesterday-namely, that the school fund had been overdrawn for legitimate school purposes \$173,000. The acting chairman (Senator Thurman) informed the memorialists that they must present some specified charges for the con mittee to act upon by next Tuesday or Wednesday. The committee then, at two o'clock P. M. adjourned till Tuesday morning.

Commutation of Penal Terms of Servi-

tude and the Establishment of National Penitentiaries.

Dr. Wines had a hearing this morning before the

House Judiciary Committee, and made an argu ment in support of a bill in relation to United States prisoners, introduced by Mr. Butler, o Massachusetts, last Monday. The bill authorizes a commutation and shortening of sentence for good conduct to prisoners in such States and Territorie as have no commutation laws of their own, and provides for inquiry into their treatment wherever they are now confined. This inquiry was proposed h a view to the question of the establishment by the government of one or more penitentiaries for its own convicts. Dr. Wines had recommended this measure in his report to the President upon the International Penitentiary Congress of Lo don, and was confirmed in his opinion by finding that the same policy had been urged by the present Attorney General and his immediate predecessor.

Dr. Wines considered such a policy called for by considerations of both duty and interest-duty because the government had a responsibility in regard to these men which it could not transfer to aother power, the States, over whose action it had no control; interest, because the large sums now spent upon their keeping might thus all be saved, In support of this proposition he referred to nu-merous prisons in which the prison labor was made to pay all expenses, and yield an annual cash surplus varying from \$2,000 or \$3,000 to \$40,000. Still he did not wish to be understood as proposing any sacrifice of moral to pecuniary resuits in prison management. Reformation was cheapest at any cost; but he maintained) to be a civil engineer in the navy.

that, as a rule, prisons were most refor-matory where the labor was most productive. He did, not, however, ask the immediate creation of a single Penitentiary, but simply proposed an inquiry into the influences, for good or for evil, by which United States convicts were surrounded in With the facts before it, shown by such an investiga tion, the government would be able, on solid grounds, to answer the question whether it had dis-charged its whole duty to these men in furnishing them all the helps it properly might in the effort reform, or whether it still owed a further duty to them in that regard. Dr. Wines closed his argument by pointing out several incidental advan-tages that would be likely to result from the inquiry proposed.

Transportation Expenses of the Depart.

ments of Government.

The President sent a message to the House to-day enclosing communications from the various departments in reply to the inquiry whether ex-penses had been increased by them for transportation of any matter which before the abolition of the iranking privilege was carried in the mails. The Secretary of State says no such expense has been incurred by his department. The Secretary of the Interior says it is not the practice of his department to forward mail matter outside the mails. he Secretary of War says, as a matter of economy in sending, the express was used for a short time. in sending, the express was used for a snort time.

Not more than \$87 was thus spent. But the Signal

Service has incurred express expenses of \$225 a

month in forwarding supplies to stations of observation. The Secretary of the Navy thinks \$220 would cover the amount spent in his department. The Postmaster General says no money has been expended by his department by sending matter outside the mails.

The Postmaster General Argues in Favor of the Postal Car System of

Distributing the Mails. The Postmaster General, in response to a resolution of inquiry, transmitted to the Senate the following information concerning the railway postal service:—The annual cost of the service between Washington and New York is \$147,000, exclusive of the salaries of clerks and route agents, which amount to \$101,200. The compensation demanded by the railway companies-namely, thirteen mills per lineal foot of car per mile run-would amount to \$262,806, or \$161,656 more than they are now paid under the present system. Owing to the delay of the railway companies to make weight returns their compensation for the service be-tween New York and Boston has not yet been readjusted, but supposing the weights to be the same as in March, 1873, their total compensation would be \$121,238. The cost of transporting all the mails between New York and Boston in railway post office cars would be, at the rates ded by the companies, \$178,765 more than the cost of the present service. There is now paid to railroad companies for mail service between New York and Buffalo, and Rochester and Niagara Falls \$275,220 per annum, and to postal clerks, \$52,000 per annum. The increase demanded by the rail road companies for this service is \$141,900 per annum for the present service. The Postmaster General states that there could be no increase in the frequency of the service between New York and Boston, or between New York and Buffalo and Niagara Pails, all available trains being now made The post offices at all the more important manufacturing and commercia centres exchange by direct pouches with frequent intervals, not depending on the railway post office cars. He says it is obviously impracticable to extend this system of exchange by direct pouches to all post offices in the United States regardless of their size. He proceeds to illustrate the advantages of the railway postal car system and shows that the cost of pouches and locks, &c., the increased cost of transporting the mails, owing to the extra weight of the pouches and the salaries of the extra employes that would be involved in the direct pouch exchange system suggested, would more than equal the total annual cost of the present postal car sesten and without in any way increasing the exist an mail facilities.

The Project of Improving the San Antonio Creek at San Franciso. The Board of Army Engineers for the Pacific Coast have made a report under the act of last year directing them to submit a project for im proving the estuary known as San Antonio Creek. referred to is a small stream with ample depth of water for shipping, except for the fact that its entrance is obstructed by a very wide par or shoal which is nearly bare at low water. The land subthe way out to the deep water line of the bay, is the property of the Central Pacific Railroad Company and other private speculators, to whom it is expected to prove a mine of wealth it once redeemed. The engineers report the following com-

prehensive plan :stone, 1,000 feet apart, and that these be carried out over the bar to a point opposite the end of the railroad wharf, where there is now a depth of sixteen to eighteen feet at low water.

Second—That a canal be excavated from the head of the estuary to San Leandro Bay.

Third—That a dam be constructed across the entrance of San Leandro Bay; and

Fourth—That the latter be dredged so as to make it a tidal basin.

The extended training walls are to be constructed to the height of four feet above low water, and will, therefore, be submerged at high tide. They say the effect of all this will be that the ebb water will dredge out a channel of fourteen to six teen feet at low tide between the whole length of the training walls and make a harbor at Oakland capable of accommodating at one time forty large ships, together with ferryboats and small vessels. Such accommodation they agree is necessary They estimate the cost of the training walls and dredging out between them at \$479,074, the cost of excavating the proposed canal at \$350,000, the cost of the required dam at \$55,000, and the cost of dredging at San Leandro Bay, so as to make it a proper tidal basin, at about \$441,000—in all say \$1,305,074, exclusive of land damages and bridges nvolved in the construction of the canal. Senator Hager and Representatives Clayton and Luttrell

pense of the general government detrimental to nd in competition with existing facilities created and paid for by the citizens of San Francisco. Decision of an Old Claim for Moletie

scheme, or any other appropriating money to provide for so-called commercial facilities at the ex-

themselves earnestly opposed to the

Against a New York Firm. Attorney General has decided the case Grinnell and Merritt, Collector and Naval Officer of the port of New York, who brought suit against Weld & Co. for penalties under the customs law. They went out of office with the suit pending durphy and Laffin became Collector and Naval Officer and discovered claims for other penalties Weld & Co., to compromise all of said claims, con ented to a judgment against them in said suit for \$75,000, and the decision of the Attorney General is that the moieties are to be divided in proportion to the claims that originated during the incumbency of each set of officers, and which claums

Probable Libelling of the Steamer General Sherman for Violation of the

Neutrality Law. It is probable that the Secretary of the Treasury will order the libel of the steamer General Sherma for a violation of the Neutrality act in having been employed in waging war against a friendly power.

Movements of the Executive. The President was at the Capitol to-day, but did not remain long. He had i nterviews in the Presi dent's Room with Senators Conkling, Gordon and lew others on matters pertaining to their respec tive States.

The President to-day sent to the Senate the fol

lowing nominations:-Edward F. Dunne to be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Atizona; M. P. Berry to be Collector of Customs for the Dis trict of Alaska; David Turner to be Collector of Customs at Alexandria, Virginia.

Nominations Confirmed by the Senate. F. D. Sewell was confirmed by the Senate to-day to be Supervisor of Internal Revenue, vice William A. Simmons, resigned, and Philip C. Asserson THE TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM.

Consideration of the Subject in the House-Mr. Ramsey's Speech in Support of the Project of a Government Trunk Route.

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1874. The speech of Mr. Ramsey (republican) in favor of the bill having for its object the cheapening of transportation from the prairies of the West to the seaboard of the East, contains a plain presentation of the arguments of the grangers for relief from the extortionate monopolies of railways.

Mr. RAMSEY, of Minnesota, called up the resolution introduced by him on Wednesday last in regard to cheap transportation, and addressed the Senate in favor thereof. He said the annual products of Minnesota were over 22,000,000 bushels of wheat, upon which the average freight to New York was about fifty-seven cents per bushel in grain could be moved at half these rates it would add nearly \$8,000,000 to the annual income of his State. The same might be said in regard to all States of the Mississippi Valley. There were three practical ways of doing this:—

States of the Mississippi Valley. There were three practical ways of doing this:—

METHODS OF CHEAPENING TRANSPORTATION.

First—By improving the navigation of the Mississippi River from the Falls of St. Anthony to the Gulf of Mexico, which could be easily and cheaply done, first, by damming up the waters in the lakes of Upper Minnesota, storing it for the dry season, and so obtaining a uniform depth of five feet for the Upper Mississippi.

Second—By continuing the other improvements now pader way; by deepening the channel between New Orleans and the Gulf. These would give cheap freight by barges to New Orleans and by McCambers to Europe.

Third—By deepening the channels between the lakes (and but a small appropriation from the United States would be required for this purpose, as Canada would do the rest), and then under a reciprocity treaty, our ships could be loaded at Duluth for Liverpool, and so have two competing water ways.

water ways.

Fourth-All Western States are not so favorably

Europe. The Western States want and must have an all rail route for freight,
THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT
to charter and aid such a work is undoubted.
Each State surrendered to Congress the right to regulate inter-State commerce, and thus Congress obtained the right absolutely necessary to the prosperity of every Western State to regulate inter-State commerce in as complete a manner as a State can regulate the commerce within its own limits.

situated as Minnesota, with two water routes to Europe. The Western States want and must have

timits.
THE DAY OF SMALL THINGS PASSED.
Our present system of railroads was adopted for the day of small things, when wheat was imported into Mannesota. The mere inspection of the map shows the Western roads radiating from two or shows the Western roads radiating from two of three great centres, and the hundreds of Western roads now open have only the same four trunk lines that were in operation twenty years ago, when they had only millions of bushels of grain. We must provide for hundreds of milions of bushels. We need reforms in the present roads and a double track freight railroad, chartered and controlled by Congress, with maximum rates of six milis a ton per mile. This was practicable, and with such a road competing with water ways by the river and by the lakes, would give the West what alone should supply access to the markets of the world for the products of her fields, now rotting in her granaries or burning for fuel.

NATIONAL LIQUOR COMMISSION.

Passage of the Bill in the Senate Author izing the Appointment of Commission ers by the President to Investigate the Prevalence of Drunkenness and the Manufacture and Sale of Alcoholic Beverages-Text of the Bill.

*Washington, March 6, 1874. On motion of Mr. Wright, of Iowa, in the Senate, he bill authorizing a National Liquor Commission was taken up for consideration, and without fur ther debate the vote upon it was taken.

The bill was passed with the following vote yeas 26, nays 21:-YEAS—Messra Anthony, Boreman, Buckingham, Cameron, Chandler, Conkling, Dorsey, Penton, Flanagan, Freinighnysen, Hamilin, Ingails, Logan, Mitchell, Morritt of Maine, Orleady, Fease, Frat, Ramsey, Sargent, Scott, Sherman, Speticer, Sunner, West and Wright—28, Naya-Reasts Bayerd, Sogy, Clayton, Cooper, Davis, Dennis, Goldthwale, Gordon, Hamilton of Texas, Hitch, Cock, Johnston, Kelly, Lewis, McCreery, Merrimon, Norwood, Hansom, Robertson, Saulsbury, Stevenson and Stockton—21

TEXT OF THE BILL.

The bill as passed reads as follows:—

Be it enacted, &c., that there shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consect of the Senate, a commission of five persons, neither of whom shall be the holder of any office of profit or trust in the general or State government. The said commissioners shall be selected solely with reference to personal fitness and capacity for an honest, impartial and thorough investigation, and shall held office until their duties shall be accomplished, but not to exceed one year. It shall be their duty to investigate the alcoholic and fermented inquor traffic and manufacture, having special reference to revenue and taxation, distinguishing, as far as possible, in the conclusions they arrive at, between the effects produced by the use of distilled or spirituous as distinguished from the use of fermented or malt liquors in their economic, criminal, moral and scientific aspects in connection with paupersim, crime, vice, the public health and the general welfare of the people; also to inquire and take testimony as to the practical results of license and restrictive legislation for the prevention of intemperance in the several States and the effect produced by such legislation upon the consumption of distilled or spirituous ilquors, and of fermented or malt The bill as passed reads as follows:legislation upon the consumption of distilled or spirituous liquors, and of lermented or malt liquors; and also to ascertain whether the evil of drunkenness has been increased or decreased thereby, whether the use of optum as a stimulant

liquors; and also to ascertain whether the evil of drunkenness has been increased or decreased thereby, whether the use of optum as a stimulant and substitute for alcoholic drink has become more general in consequence of such legislation, and whether public morals have been improved thereby. It shall also be the duty of said commission to gather information and take testimony as to whether the evil of drunkenness exists to the same extent or more so in other civilized countries, and whether those foreign nations that are considered the most temperate in the use of stimulants are so through prohibitory laws; also to what degree prohibitory legislation has affected the consumption and manufacture of malt and spirituous liquors in this country.

Secrion 2.—That the commissioners, all of whom shall not be advocates of prohibitory legislation or total abstinence in relation to alcoholic or fermented liquors, shall serve without salary, and shall have authority to employ a secretary at a reasonable compensation, not to exceed \$2,000 per annum, which, with the necessary expenses incleental to such investigation, not exceeding \$10,000 for both the secretary and commissioners, shall be paid out of any money in the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated, upon vouchers to be approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, and for this purpose the sum of \$10,000 is hereby appropriated. It shall be the further duty of said commissioners to report the result of their investigation and the expenses attending the same to the President, to be by him transmitted to Congress.

MURDER IN GEORGIA.

A Marshal Blows Out the Brains of a Prisoner in His Charge.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 6, 1874.
Lawrenceville, the county seat of Gwynette county, about thirty miles from Atlanta, was stirred yesterday by a murder committed by the town marshal upon an escaping prisoner. The name of the marshal is Harvey and that of the ieceased George Baugh. At the time of the ter rible occurrence both men had been drinking. It seems that Baugh had been arrested and fined for some violation of the town ordinances, and while the Marshal had him in custody he endeavored to make his escape. The Marshal started in pursuit and caught him just as he was climbing over a fence and caught him just as he was climbing over a fence. He seized Baugh, palled him back, and throwing an arm around him put a pistol to his head and fired. The bail passed through saugh's face and lodged in his brain, causing instant death. The deceased was a young man, some twenty-three or twenty-four years of age. He belonged to a most respectable family in the neighborhood, but was of dissipated habits. So far as I have learned there had been no bad feeling between himself and Harvey, and the whole of the terrible occurrence seems to have dated its origin to a free use of whiskey. The whole town of Lawrenceville is deeply agitated over the affair. Marshal Harvey was at once arrested, and a thorough investigation will ensue. As the court is now in session in Lawrenceville the trial may come off in a few days.

"DID PAUL ENJOIN SILENCE ON WOMEN ?" Dr. Armitage delivered a lecture on the above uestion at the Fifth Avenue Baptist church yester

day afternoon. The lecture was, in fact, a response to certain adverse criticisms by a reviewer on state ents and convictions made and expressed by the Doctor in the course of a previous lecture. It appears that the Doctor's stand was criticized very severely, exception being taken to his theologi and ethics. This being the case the response was very naturally deep and learned, displaying at every turn the lecturer's Biblical erudition and fluent knowledge of sacred womenology.

The Doctor had no occasion to go beyond Paul himself for a negative answer to the question of the lecture. It the objections selected by the lecturer are all that have been put forth against him, the reviewer has been reviewed in a manner which would enjoin silence on any sensible man. thich would enjoin silence on any sensible man. The lecture is too full of euphonious names of centric orthography ever to become popular, but be the people who have read the review it is of innite interest and will be, by special request, reated in the sanctuary of the Fitth Avenue Bapst church, on Friday next, at three o'clock P. M. A NEW BELLEVUE HOSPITAL.

"Should Active Measures in Regard to the Erection of a New Hospital Be Taken ?"

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

We publish the following abstract of a report of the committee sppointed to decide upon the best method of reforming the pernicious hospital system of New York :-

TO THE PERSIDENT OF THE STATE CHARITIES AID ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK:—
The undersigned, a special committee appointed by your association to "take active measures in regard to the erection of a new Believue Hospital," beg leave respectually to report:

regard to the erection of a new Believue Hospital," beg leave respectfully to report:—

The committee met at the earliest possible moment and appointed sub-committees to represent the different departments of the subject to be considered, each of which has given its earnest attention to the various matters of inquiry.

RESULTS OF INQUIRY.

The results of these inquiries are based—

(a.) Upon information in regard to hospital construction collected both in this country and abroad.

abroad.

(b.) Upon a comparison of the Bellevue Hospital building with other large city hospitals here and in Europe, and (c.) Upon the statistics of mortality furnished by the printed report of the Bellevue Hospital Medical Board.

(a.) In regard to the matter of hospital construction in general the experience of the last quarter of a century, and more especially of the period included between the present time and the beginning of our own late war, has set the whole subject in entirely new lights. It is not too much quarter of a century, and more especially of the period included between the present time and the beginning of our own late war, has set the whole subject in entirely new lights. It is not too much to say that the results of the hospital treatment of the Crimean war, of our American civil conflict, and of the late Franco-Prussian war, laye been to revolutionize the earlier and most widely accepted ideas as to the true principles of hospital construction, and that this revolution in sentiment has only been made more thorough and radical by what has been ascertained concerning other than military hospitals in London, Berlin and Paris. No higner authority upon this subject can be quoted than Miss Nightingale's volume op Hospitals and Hospital construction, from which it appears that the death-rate in the stately, quadrangular, three and four storied structures in London and other large towns of England, is not only iar higher than that obtaining in the smallest and cheapest structures elsewhere, but so high as to raise grave doubts, to use her own language, "as to the advantages to be derived from hospitals at all, and to lead many to think that the sick would have a much better chance of recovery if treated at home." These hospitals were all noticeable for the large number of sick collected under one roof, the deficiency of space per bed and the deficiency of light and ventilation. The same lact marked the instory of the largest hospital at Scutari, which had at one time 2,500 sick and wounded under its roof, of whom two in every five died, while, at the same time, in the hospital tents in the Crimea, although the sick would make the instory of the sick only the side of the abattory for patients. Several of these buildings, which were of the very simplest construction, had, fortunately, neither doors nor windows, and had the wind blowing directly through them. As a consequence, the mortality was one-half among the patients in the abattoirs what it was in the most complete and massive bospital establishments.

Wit

that large and intricate structures of several stories, including under one roof any considerable number of wards, are promotive of imperfect ventiation, pyemia, and, as a consequence, of a greatly enhanced death rate among the patients who are treated in them.

In our own country this conviction is, if possible, more general and profound. The experience of our own war and the reduced death rates in hospitals constructed upon what is known as the pavilion plan, together with the acknowledged difficulty of securing pure air, even by the most costly methods, in any buildings of a more complicated structure and arrangement, have compelled a general assent to the advantages of a simpler mode of construction. On this point the admirable essay of Dr. Stephen Smith on the principles of hospital construction is both clear and concusive, while the testimony of Dr. F. H. Hamilton, quoted by Profess. Esmarch before the Kiel University in 1871, It especially valuable. Says Dr. Hamilton, specially for the profession in America:—A careful observation has convinced us that all hospitals and especially military hospitals. A careful observation has convinced us that all hospi-tals and especially military hospitals, ought to be one story buildings, elevated three or four feet from the ground. In pavilions we have constantly had the smallest amount of hospital gangrene, pysemia and ery-sipelas, and it is believed that fevers have been less istal and convalescence from all maladies has been more rapid and certain. One story buildings possess these several advantages over buildings of two or more stories:—

several advantages over buildings of two or more stories:—
First—They are more easily ventilated, and this consideration takes precedence of all others. Its importance can never be overestimated. The best place to treat a sick or wounded man is always, other thing being equal, where he can get the most and the purest air. When this doctrine is thoroughly understood hospitals will cease to be the graves of soldiers, and never until then.

Second—They are much more easy of administration.

Third—Such of the patients as are able to waik can pass in and out with less tatque. In lotty buildings feeble patients and those who are lame are in many cases as effectually excluded from outdoor exercise as if they were bedridden.

were bedridden.

Of all the various modes which have been devised we have seen nothing equal to the so-called "ridge ventilation," in which the air is permitted to escape through the entire length of the ridge of the root. When this plan is combined with a movable base along the whole

plan is constructed by a painful ex-length of both sides of the ward noming.

These principles were adopted in the late Franco-German war, and are now accepted as the first principles of hospital construction in Germany.

Aiready the experience of the war is rapidly bringing about changes in the construction of their civil hospitals.

1850. constrained by a painful ex-

principles of hospital construction in Germany. Aiready the experience of the war is rapidly bringing about changes in the construction of their civil hospitals.

In the year 1869, constrained by a painful experience of mortality in surgical cases resulting from pyamia, the Commissioners of Charities erected a small wooden building for the purpose of trying the treatment of acute surgical cases in a building not infected with pyaemia; but no sooner was it finished than a number of cases of relapsing fever were crowned into it, rendering it forever unfit for the purpose of treating surgical wounds. Such is substantially the situation at this moment. Believue Hospital itself has been virtually condemned as unfit for the treatment of surgical cases by those whose business it is to care for such cases—the hurtuil and often fatal influences of hospital poison have forced themselves upon general recognition, and the only structure originally intended to meet this grave emergency has itself become practically useless from the same cause.

Add to this the fact that the original design and arrangement of the hospital is most filly adapted for the purposes which a hospital should aim to serve—that its wards are overgrown and badly ventilated, and that its walls are saturated with the poisonous emanations of disease for half a century, and the unfitness of Bellevue Hospital for its present responsible work in this great city is palmilly evident.

This unfitness becomes only the more apparent when the present Bellevue Hospital building is compared with other large hospital buildings built here and in Europe.

It cannot be denied that the best of these hospitals are defective in their construction, but there is to be seen in the new St. Thomas' Hospital in London and in the grown the same level as the floor of the wards. In Germany, however, particularly at Kiel and Leipsic, hospitals have been constructed strictly on the pavilion plan, and the great benefit of this arrangement has demonstrated itself to all who have seen a

one case is put down under pyæmia and pneu-

umonia. One case is put down under pyæmia and necrosis of sternum.
One case is put down under pyæmia and morbus coxarus.
One case is put down under pyæmia and tertiary

syphilis. One case is put down under pyæmia and resection of clow.

Thirty-three cases are put down under puerpral peritonitis.

From the above we get, in 1,073 deaths, 69 caused by hospital poisons, or 1 in every 15.5; 6.45 in

From the above we get, in the every late; by hospital poisons, or 1 in every late; with these suggestive figures before you your committee need add but little. They seel that the time has cose for some decisive and definite action, and that with the mass of facts now before them further delay would be simply criminal. With this view they beg to suggest the following plan to be carried out substantially upon the present

The present dimensions of the ground within the Believue Hospital enclosure are 400 teet in width and 530 teet in length. It is proposed to extend the city sewers several hundred teet into the river, and then to fill in on the river line so as to increase the length of the present site to 800 feet, which will give a free surface of 460x300 feet. On this ground it is proposed to erect four or six pavilions, sufficient to receive all the surgical cases. The

pavilions to be raised say eight feet from the ground, on a structure of masonry to be say 120 feet long by 30 feet wide, and to contain say thirty beds. These buildings to be one story high, with ridge ventilation. Each pavilion must also have connected with it a small executive building, containing a day room, nurses' room and small reception and operating room. Also in connection with this executive building and separated from the ward would be the bathrooms and water closets. All the executive buildings to be connected with each other by a basement corridor, the top of which would be on a level with the floor of the wards.

which would be the title improvements and adwards.

It will be seen that the improvements and advantages almed at in this plan are in no sense novel or untried. It can be shown from the history of the hospital and the testimony of its physicians that the necessity for every one of them has more than once been brought to the notice of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction by

more than once been brought to the notice of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction by the physicians themselves.

Your committee learn from some of the older physicians, as Drs. Clark and Wood, that at the time when it was first proposed to change the Almshouse into a hospital, the members of the Medical Board attempted to have the building changed so as to improve its sanitary condition, and in 1857, when their request was compiled with, they urged the necessity of having the closets put outside of the building, and protested against the fireplaces being closed, bringing forward the fact that the open fireplace is one of the best modes of ventilation. At the same time they made objections to having prisoners and paupers as nurses, two or three of the Board (not Roman Catholics) even going so far as to ask that Sisters of Charity might be introduced as nurses.

Your committee are also glad to be informed that for years past, especially since our late civil war, many members of the Medical Board have favored the plan of erecting pavilion wards, to be used in treating all open wounds, such as compound fractures, cases after surgical operation, &c., and that from time to time committees from the Board have been appointed to arge the adoption of improved sanitary measures and the more enlightened treatment of the sick poor.

These facts are the more important because

sanitary fieldsures and the more enlightened treatment of the sick poor.

These facts are the more important because they encourage us to urge these changes upon the Commissioners with renewed earnestness, and to feel sare that, in doing so, we may count upon the cordial sympathy and unreserved co-operation of the Medical Board.

Your committee beg to state in conclusion that they have no disposition to ignore the fact that

cordial sympathy and unreserved co-operation of the Medical Board.

Your committee beg to state in conclusion that they have no disposition to ignore the fact that Believue Hospital, with all its defects, is no worse than many others about it. But the motive which has moved your committee has not been a desire so much to show which of certain existing hospitals is better or worse as to contrast Believue Hospital, as a life-saving institution as it exists, with what it migat be made. Says the author of "Notes on Hospitals:"—"It may seem a strange principle to enunciate as the very first requirement of a hospital, that it should do the sick no harm." And yet it is nevertheless necessary not merely to lay down such a principle but to insist upon its application. If the most frequented refuge of the sick in his great city is notoriously liable to the suspicion that it does harm to those who are brought within its walls, such a condition of things demands immediate remedy. To procrastinate or postpone that remedy is to proclaim our disregard of the well being of the sick, nay, our absolute indifference to the value of numan life. An evil recognized and acknowledged but incremediade has a tatal capacity for becomic chronic. Left alone by those who most plainly and keenly see them, the grave defects of charitable institutions very soon become disregarded as unimportant or tolerated as insvitable. Nay, worse than this, the evil example develops an evil propagating power, and an ill constructed, badly ventilated, poison tainted hospital in New York, frequented by large numbers of young men from all parts of our country, who daily witness its defects and recognize its injurious influence, and yet see no evidence of a disposition to remedy those defects, is something which will, sooner or later, make itself hurtuilly feit throughout the land. Every consideration, therefore, of mercy to the sick and suffering, of a decent respect for the settled conclusions of the bighest authorities, of a due regard for the influences of

elay.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY C. POTTER, Chairman. C. POTTER, Chairman.
Gouverneur M. Smith,
M. D.
Charles A. Joy,
James W. Beekman.
Howard Potter.
L. P. Morton.
Miss A. H. Woolsey,
Mrs. E. K. Hobson.
Miss Gould.
Mrs. Robert Woodworth,
J. M. Hurtado.
Mrs. P. L. Van Rensselaer. Elisha Harris, M. D. C. R. Agnew, M. D. William H. Van Buren. Francis A. Stout.
Miss E. Van Rensselaer.
Mrs. Hartman Kuhn,
Mrs. Henry A. Cott.
Miss E. E. Russell.
Miss S. M. Van Amringe.
E. Krackowitzer, M. D.
W. G. Wylie, M. D.
A. B. Crosby, M. D.

SUICIDAL TRAGEDIES.

A Mother Administers Morphine to Herself and Daughter at Atlanta, Ga., and an Old Farmer Shoots Himself Through the Heart at Lithonia.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 6, 1874.

This morning, Mrs. Duffy, residing at No. 20 Wheat street, discovered Willie Pettibone leaning against the fence between her residence and Mrs. Pettibone's, apparently in deep distress. She ran to him, and upon being told that his mother was dying rushed into Mrs. Pettibone's. She found drs. Pettibone in a deep stupor, and her little girl Ella in the same condition. Mrs. Duffy took little Ella out of the bed and bathed her. Dr. Charles Pinckney was summoned, but Mrs. Pettibone expired before his arrival. The facts connected with her death are as follows:-She wrote to Mr. G. J. Howard for \$2 worth lace as a pledge for the money. The druggist refused to send \$2 worth, but sent \$1 worth-fortyeight doses-in quarter of a grain doses. There were none but Mrs. Pettibone and little Ella there last night. About seven o'clock Mrs. Pettibone took eleven and three-quarter grains of morphine and administered the same to Ella, against the child's remonstrances. Mrs. Pettibone died this morning, but the child is in a good way of recov ery. Mrs. Pettibone previously wrote a letter to her mother, residing in Connecticut, and to her son Willie, explaining that pecuniary trouble was her reason for taking her own life and that of her daughter. She also asked that herself and daugh ter be buried in the cemetery here by the side of

ter be buried in the cemetery here by the side of her husband.

THE CAUSE OF HER DEPRESSION.

Mr. Robert A. Pettibone, her husband, was a merchant here, and died nearly two years ago. He had his life insured, and the sum of \$4,500 was paid to her. Her son, Willie, is about sixteen years of age and her daughter, Ella, about sixteen years of age. Upon receiving the insurance money she equally divided it between herself and children. Judge Daniel Pittman, the executor, secured the amounts belonging to the children. Mrs. Pettibone allowed her father-in-law, then engaged in business on Decatur street, to use her \$1,500. He failed, and thus she lost her all. Sne was addicted to the use of morphine, and it is said that about one year ago she attempted the life of herself and little daughter. In addition to her pecuniary difficulties, her daughter had had an attack of smallpox. During the illness of the daughter no one visited her. Her rent was unpaid and the rent agent threatened to put her out. About two years ago a man named Joel Kelsey committed suicide in the same house by the same means—morphine.

out. About two years ago a man named Joel Keisey committed suicide in the same house by the same means—miorphine.

Lithonia, a quiet village on the Georgia Railroad, twenty-four miles below Atlanta, was the scene of another suicide this morning. The man who has thus rashly taken his life is Wesly Braswell. He was born in DeKalb county and has lived nearly all his life in Lithonia. He was a farmer by occupation, but had recently rettred and was residing with the family of one of his sons until to-day. Mr. Braswell was about seventy-three years of age, and leaves a large family consisting of a wife and some eight or ten children who are plunged into the deepest woe by this terrible death. One of his sons. W. S. Braswell, is a prominent merchant of Lithonia. Mr. Braswell had for some time been afflicted with hydrocele, and his sufferings were unendurable. He had been twice operated upon by Dr. W. H. Bond, of Lithonia, but the relief afforded was only temporary. His suffering seems to have suggested to him the idea of obtaining relief by suicide. That he had such an intention was discovered by his anxious relatives a week or so back. On Friday last he attempted to tarow himself under a train at Lithonia, but was prevented by force. In the room he occupied every dangerous implement had been removed, including his razors, and he was continually watched. Unfertunately a small double barreled shotgun, belonging to one of the children, was overlooked.

This morning the family rose at the usual hour.

barreled shotgun, belonging to one of the children, was overlooked.

THE SECOND TRAGEDY.

This morning the family rose at the usual hour. and sent word to Mr. Braswell to come to breakfast. He replied that he could not come to the table, but asked them to send something to him. A cup of coffee was accordingly sent to his room. While the family were seated around the table they were alarmed by the report of a shotgun, and rushed to Mr. Braswell's room, where a ghastly and reshed to Mr. Braswell's room, where a ghastly and reshed to Mr. Braswell's room, where a ghastly and reshed to Mr. Braswell's room, where a ghastly and reshed to Mr. Braswell's room, where a ghastly and rearful spectacle awaited them. There, stretched upon the floor, lay the lather in the last agonies of death, the blood slowly trickling from a large wound on the left side just over the heart. He never spoke after he was shot, and death relieved him from all suffering in a few moments. The gun was loaded with squirrel shot. From the range of the load upwards it is supposed that Mr. Braswell cocked the gun, placed the butt upon the floor and leaned against it, with his left side resting upon the muzzle. In this position he pushed back the trigger by means of a small stick hitherto used in holding up his window.

holding up his window.

The sad occurrence has cast a pall of gloom over the entire community. The children of the unhappy man were amoug the most respected citizens of lathonia, and have the sympathy of all in their sad amiction.

TRAILING THE STARS AND STRIPES

What Took Place on Board the Steamshirt City of New York at Havana.

Her Captain Surrenders Three Cuban Refugees to the Spanish Authorities.

Indignation Among the Passengers.

The steamship City of New York, commanded by Captain Deaken, was to have left the port of Havana on the afternoon of last Saturday, bound 105 this port; but in order to enable the Aimée operatroupe to give a final performance in Havana in the evening her departure was postponed till the fol-lowing morning. Accordingly on Sunday morning last, at half-past eight, after the opera bound singers had been taken on board, also a large number of Italian singers, the anchor was weighed, Morro Castle was passed and the steamer was heading northward.

When the Island of Cubs was away about a dozen miles to southward, and the second offices of the steamer was walking on the hurricane deck his attention was attracted by a peculiar noise issuing from one of the lifeboats resting on the deck in question. Listening closely, he soon discovered the sound of men's voices, and felt certain that stowaways were hidden in the boat. To open the canvas covering was the work of an instant, and three well-dressed and intelligent men were discovered there, who represented that they had taken refuge on an American vessel, believing it would protect them from tyranny; that they were sympathizers with "Cuba Libre," and did not want to be drafted in Havana to go and fight against "Cuba Libre," and that they would pay their passage money upon the arrival of the vessel in New York.

TAKEN BACK TO BE GABROTED. The Second Officer, as in duty bound, informed

the Captain, who instantly came to the conclusion of stopping the vessel and returning to Havana and surrendering the unfortunate Cubans to the military authorities. This was done, and the men now without doubt sleeping their last sleep. It is said that several passengers, who are reported to have been unprovided with passports, but who had paid their passage money, were in terrible fear, believing that they likewise were to be handed over to the authorities.

INDIGNATION AMONG THE PASSENGERS.

The indignation among the passengers and crew was immense at this act of the Captain; but renonstrance was in vain, and more than one disparaging remark as to the protecting power of the Stars and Stripes after the Santiago de Cuba butchery was made. The rest of the voyage to this port was uneventful, save that the surrender of the three fugitives had made the Captain highly unpopular.

WHAT A FRENCH OPERATIC SINGER SAYS. Monsieur Guiot, of No. 221 West Twenty-seventh street, who was a passenger by the City of News York on this voyage, in an interview with a reporter of the Herald yesterday, said:—"I saw the three refugees, who appeared to me to be men of refinement and education and what you call in English 'gentlemen.' The passengers all felt over by the Captain to the Spanish, but, of course, they were powerless to change Mr. Deaken's

WHAT AN OLD AMERICAN CAPTAIN SAYS. "Such an affair is unprecedented," said an old American captain to a HEBALD reporter yesterday. "Captain Deaken could have put the stowaways to work, if he had chosen, as coal passers on in any other position he chose, to let them earn their passage. He could also have had them arrested for fraud upon their arrival here and brought to trial; but to deviate from his voyage to put them back to Havana is an unheard-of rence. The most charitable judgment as to his conduct is that he was trying to please his owners and prevent their having any complications with the Spanish authorities.

WHAT A PROMINENT CUBAN SAYS In conversation with Mr. Leandro Rodriguez. prominent Cuban of this city, he said :- "This action of the Captain of the City of New York has caused great excitement to-day. A young relative of mine lately escaped from Havana in the following manner, and shows a pleasant contrast to the

PROUD OF THE STARS AND STRIPES. "This young fellow paid the Captain of a steamer plying from Havana to Texas \$220 in gold to take before the steamer started the Captain saw a boat load of police coming to search the vessel, and he told my relative to leave the ship till they had finished their search. This he did, and subsequently returned. Another boat was subsequently een, and the Captain told him to the vessel, as he would not take the risk of having him on board any longer, but refused to pay back the \$220 paid for the In despair the young fellow went on poard an American schooner bound for Baltimore, and said, "Captain, I throw myself on your mercy. want to escape from the draft, for I am a Cuban. and do not want to go out and fight my brothers "Certainly, I will take you, and I would have taken you without a cent, for I hate Spanish. tyranny." Upon the arrival of the vessel at Baltimore he took the young fellow to the house of some of his friends and treated him with almost brotherly kindness and sent him on to New York, where he is at the present moment."

Such a contrast speaks for itself. WHAT THE CHIEF ENGINEER SAYS

Last evening a HERALD reporter was instructed to go on board the City of New York and get the statement of her officers. The only one found on board was the Chief Engineer, and the following conversation took place:—

REPORTER—Why did Captain Deaken go back to

Havana to deliver up the three men who had con-

CHIEF ENGINEER-Because they were stows ways. REPORTER-It is a somewhat unusual practice for

a large steamer like yours to return on a similar errand, is it not?

REPORTER-No subsequent harm would have oc-curred to Captain Deaken for bringing them to New York, 1 believe? CHIEF ENGINEER-Well, they might perhaps have instituted proceedings against the ship when

SHE RETURNED TO HAVANA.

If the fellows had kept quiet for some time longer they might have been all right; but they made themselves public too near Havana, and, in addition to this, there were a large number of Spantards on board. All on the ship wished that no harm might happen to the three men.

ROBBERY IN CONNECTICUT.

A Railroad Bond, Money and Valuables Mysteriously Disappear. BRIDGEPORT, March 6, 1874.
One of the boldest and most successful rob-

beries took place in East Bridgeport on the night of Wednesday last, at the house of Mr. Carl Caester, who was asleep in his room, and knew nothing of the occurrence and his loss until told of it by his son yesterday morning. Among the articles taken from Mr. Gaester were one \$1,000 Toledo and Wabash Railroad bond, \$300 in gold, silver and greenbacks, two gold watches, jewelry, &c., the whole valued at \$1,500. The property was in a bag, and had been placed in a bureau drawer in Mr. Caester's room for safe keeping. The number of the railroad bondl was \$247. Payment on it has been stopped.

No real clew to the perpetrator of the crime has yet been discovered, and there are many circumstances about the case which make it a very singular one. Two German pediers of watches and revolvers, known to have been in the neighborhood at the time of the burgiary, have been arrested, one by the name of Derrich, in this city, this alternoon, and the other, giving the name of Clemens, and who disappeared suddenly from the city after the robbery, in Hartford last night. nothing of the occurrence and his loss until told